

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Bessent S45834

f18SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/26/10: rev'd 7/30/18

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

Territory of Florida County of Nassau } Nassau County Florida October Term 1832

On this 8th day of October 1832, being the first day of the regular term of the County Court, personally appeared in Court, before the judge of the County Court now sitting, John Bessent Esquire of said County, aged sixty-eight years, who being first sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress the 7th of June 1832.

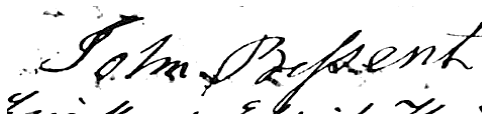
That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers. In Captain Daniel Morrell's [Daniel Morrall's] company, 1st Regiment Colonel Archibald McDonald of General Francis Marion's Brigade, in All Saints Parish, Georgetown district South Carolina on the 8th of June 1781 being drafted in the Militia -- that I did duty five weeks. In the October following was again out under the same officers, for six weeks. In January 1782 under the same officers performed seven weeks duty. Afterwards in June '82 was out under Captain Saml. Price [Samuel Price], who succeeded Morrell & remained in service until the ensuing November. Colonel Peter Horry in the same Brigade commanded a Regiment of Horse of 12 'm [?] men [12-month men?] -- never had a regular discharge -- but a certificate from Colonel Horry to the Auditor of the State of South Carolina, from whom I received a certificate of debt due me for £12.18.

Believes that some of his neighbors in South Carolina are still living who can prove his service -- was in no engagement while I was in service -- I was born 30 March 1765, in All Saints Parish, George Town district -- the record of his age was in the family Bible -- I lived in that neighborhood until 1816 -- one year at St. Mary's Georgia: ever since in this County.

I was summoned in the service by Abner [?] Bessent [could be Abraham Bessent or Abram Bessent] the first Sergeant of Captain Morrell's Company.

Sworn to & subscribed this eighth of October 1832.

S/ John Bessent



[J.D. Braddock, William Frink & Elijah Higgenbotham gave the standard supporting affidavit. The clerk of the court certified that there was no clergyman resident in Nassau County.]

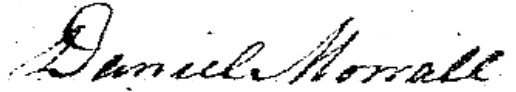
[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$27.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for eight months & five days service in the South Carolina militia.]

7/30/18

[p 2: Form of Indent No. 146 Book Z dated Twentieth February 1787 “delivered to Mr. John Beasent [sic] this our Indented Certificate, for the Sum of Eleven pounds Sterling For Militia duty p a/ from the Commissioners.”]

[p 3: reverse of the above Indent bears the following:]

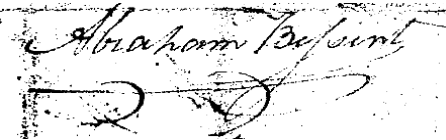
Rec'd 26th Feby 87 Three Years Interest on this Indent 15/4—15/4—15/4
S/ Daniel Morrall



Rec'd 14 August 1788 Two Year's Interest on this Indent due 1 April last.
£o.15.4

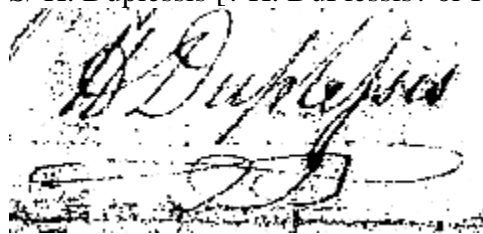
15.4

S/ Abraham Bessent



Rec'd 25 July 1789 Interest to 1st of April Last £0.15.4

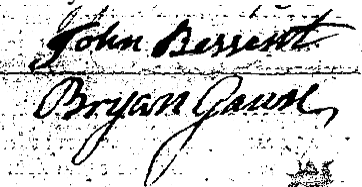
S/ H. Duplessis [? H. DuPlessis? or H. Du Plessis?]



We, John Bessent & Bryan Gause, Do hereby assign over our Right and title of the within Indent with all the Interest thereon due or may hereafter become due to James Cochran, his Heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns and to their Proper Use forever Having Received full and ample Compensation for the same. Given under our hands this the 19th Day of April 1790

S/ John Bessent

S/ Bryan Gause



¹ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [ENTER ON-LINE RECORDS INDEX](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Individual" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.